

# Media Release

## Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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**September 12, 2016**

### ***Robbery in Cordes Lakes – 3 In-Custody Suspects located after an Injured Suspect visits Hospital***

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On September 11, 2016, at approximately 4:15 AM, YCSO deputies were dispatched to the 20900 block of East Coyote Lane, Cordes Lakes, regarding an attempted burglary call. Deputies spoke with two victims, a man (41) and a woman (54), who explained that 2 men wearing ski masks forced their way into the home with weapons including a baton and handgun.

The investigation resulted in the arrest of 3 suspects including 46-year-old Robert Foster from Phoenix, 52-year-old Charles Engers from Chino Valley, and 26-year-old Sterling Jensen from Prescott. All suspects were booked on the following charges: Armed Robbery x2, Aggravated Assault x2, Kidnapping x2, Burglary, Criminal Trespassing, and Misconduct involving weapons x2. Each suspect is held on a \$50,000 bond and all remain in custody.

**BACKGROUND** - The male victim initially had contact with two of the suspects (Foster/Engers) when he opened the back door to investigate a noise. At that point, both suspects forced their way into the home and demanded money. This victim noted an "older" appearing suspect (later identified as Foster) was brandishing a handgun and a "younger" looking suspect (later identified as Engers) was holding a baton.

The victim reacted by grabbing the baton from Engers and pushing him against a door frame. The victim took the baton from Engers and chased both suspects outside. As the struggle continued, the

victim was able to briefly control Engers with a headlock and then strike him in the head with the baton. The victim noted he maintained an offensive posture because he feared being shot otherwise. Both suspects eventually fled to a 4-door Maroon Chevy Trailblazer type vehicle parked down the street and drove away. During the confrontation, the "older" suspect (Foster) dropped the gun which was later found in the yard. The gun was actually an airsoft type pistol. The baton was also recovered and held as evidence.

The victims were able to get a glimpse of the armed suspect's face underneath his mask and identified him as Robert Foster who stayed briefly at their home in the past.

Just after 5 AM that morning, staff from the Yavapai Regional Medical Center called the Sheriff's Office to report a possible assault victim in the emergency room. The injured party told ER personnel he had been struck with a baton and was bleeding considerably from the back of his head. When deputies arrived at hospital a few minutes later, they located the suspect vehicle in the hospital parking lot with Foster asleep inside. Deputies spotted large amounts of blood on the back seat and also found a mask matching the description provided by both victims. Foster was detained and denied any knowledge of the robbery.

In the hospital, deputies found Jensen sitting at the bedside of Engers who was being treated for a head wound. Jensen initially told deputies that Engers was 'jumped' while walking in the Cordes Junction area. When deputies advised Jensen they already knew about the robbery on East Coyote Lane, Jensen confessed to his involvement as the 'get away' driver and provided details regarding the actions of Foster and Engers at the scene. Jensen stated that Foster claimed he could steal money and tools from the victims and proposed the original plan. Jensen claimed he did not know the victims.

Engers was released from the hospital and booked on the indicated charges. He made no comments.

Deputies later learned Foster planned on returning with a real handgun to again confront the victims.

*Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:*  
[www.ycsoaz.gov](http://www.ycsoaz.gov)